

Please consider during your deliberations on the cross-ownership the crucial part the media plays in society and culture. The media even shapes social consciousness. "I saw it on t.v." or "I saw it in the paper." These are frequent preludes to the telling of a fact or a story of an event.

Since the media informs and even educates the general public, it is extremely important to safeguard the integrity and neutrality of media organizations. Permitting media to consolidate threatens the variety of opinion and voice that exists in the United States.

Please protect one of society's most influential teachers: the media. Don't let it get in the hands of just a couple of companies in a small geographic space; otherwise it will turn into a media gang, stifling the public and roughing-up the dissenters.

Thank you for your consideration,
Tony Simon